

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR OF DAVID V. BROWN

HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 23, 1996

Mr. DAVIS. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise and pay tribute to Mr. David V. Brown, who has served the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority for the past 29 years as the executive director of operations and finance. September 29, 1996, marks the retirement of this exceptional member of our local community, who has dedicated years of service to northern Virginia.

Dave began his long, distinguished career with the Regional Park Authority on June 5, 1967, to work at the Bull Run Marina, Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority's first developed facility. Over the next three decades, he rose from park manager to superintendent of parks, director of operations, and finally in 1994, was appointed to his current role, executive director of finance and operations. In 1992, Dave was recognized for his valuable contributions to the Park Authority by being awarded the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority's Ira Gabrielson Award for 25 years of service.

Dave's numerous, notable accomplishments with the park authority have provided the citizens of northern Virginia recreational places and events for the enjoyment of the whole family. Dave was instrumental in developing and implementing the operations of the 19 regional parks owned and administered by the regional park authority, which include three public golf courses, five outdoor swim and play complexes, two campgrounds, gardens, historic structures, nature preserves, and the Washington & Old Dominion Railroad Regional Park, recognized as a National Recreation Trail. He was an architect of one of my favorite annual events that I look forward to attending all year, the exceedingly popular Bull Run Country Jamboree, attended by thousands. This event brings the Nation's top country artists to northern Virginia.

Dave was extremely valuable in the designing and operating of the Brambleton Golf Course, the park authority's newest course in Brambleton Regional Park in Loudoun County. Dave exemplifies the very best in public service.

Through difficult fiscal times, he has proved innovative in delivering quality services to the public, always with a smile, and never complaining. Dave leaves a legacy for Northern Virginia Parks and Recreation to be enjoyed by future generations.

Dave and his wife, Tonya, have two sons, Jeffery and Michael, of whom they are very proud. Jeffery is an attorney, and Michael is currently in London handling financial matters for Marriott Corp.

Mr. Speaker, I know that my colleagues will join me in applauding Mr. David Brown for his extraordinary efforts to provide the citizens of northern Virginia recreational parks and events

at which to enjoy the great outdoors. Although his presence will be sorely missed, we wish him great success in his future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO HELEN ANN AND BOB BATES

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 23, 1996

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor two Michigan residents as they are recognized for their contribution to Polka and the State of Michigan. Helen Ann and Bob Bates will be inducted into the State of Michigan Polka Music Hall of Fame on Sunday, October 6, 1996.

America was built by the hard work and commitment of settlers who brought with them a rich and varied heritage. Polka flourished in Michigan largely due to the devotion of those who brought with them their family traditions and customs, as well as their love of polka. Helen Ann and Bob are just a few of those special individuals who were proud to keep an honored tradition alive.

Helen Ann Hedrich of Elsie, MI, was a musician well before she married her husband, Bob, in 1958. She has played with many different musicians during her career, including the Swinging Bees, and she has criss-crossed Mid-Michigan playing inns, clubs, lodges, and Veterans of Foreign Wars Posts. But it was with her husband that she found her most rewarding musical experience.

Bob Bates, also of Elsie, is a self-taught musician. He bought his first electric bass guitar in 1965, the same year as the birth of their third child. Helen Ann and Bob played their first gig together that year, and their 31 year performing career together began.

As the MBC Band, and later as the MBC Trio and the Helen Ann Dance Band, the Bates were regulars at places such as Lamplight Inn in Carson City, the Washington Society Club in Saginaw, and the Owosso Eagle Club. For the Bates, however, their most memorable appearances have always been playing to appreciative nursing home audiences.

Mr. Speaker, thanks to the efforts of Helen Ann and Bob, we are all still able to enjoy a rich musical tradition. They will be honored at a reception in Owosso, MI because of their dedication and commitment to spreading the polka tradition and helping others enjoy this special music. I am confident that the musical legacy of these outstanding individuals will be remembered for decades to come.

IN TRIBUTE TO THE BRAVE HEROES WHO GAVE SO MUCH OF THEMSELVES IN THE MICHAEL FAUCI TRAGEDY

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 23, 1996

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the memory of Michael Braccio Fauci, who was lost and perished while skiing in the Italian Alps in February of this year. I would also like to honor all of the dedicated volunteers, friends, and family who were so instrumental in the search efforts for this young man.

Eighteen-year-old Michael Fauci disappeared on February 19, 1996, while on a skiing trip to Cortina, Italy, a birthday gift from his family. Through the combined efforts of hundreds of Italian rescue workers, U.S. consulate personnel, NATO helicopters, and volunteers over a period of 3½ months, an immense search effort was initiated to find Michael and lasted for nearly 3½ months.

Both the Italian authorities and the United States consulate in Milan did everything in their power to find Michael. The rescue party searched endlessly day and night, stopping only to rest when absolutely necessary. Never have I seen such an outpouring of concern from so many parties. My office received numerous letters and phone calls from constituents eager to help in any way they could, many of whom offered to accompany Carmine and Margaret Fauci in their efforts to find their son.

On May 26, Michael's body was found hidden in a makeshift shelter in the woods. Tragically it was Michael's parents, and their search party, who found him in the shelter not 4,000 feet north of the ski resort Cortina D'Ampezzo.

On September 25, 1996, there will be an award and choral concert in remembrance of Michael. Program participants include Mr. Gianpiero Bosetti, the head coordinator of the search operation, and representatives from national, State, and local government and community agencies. Once again, friends and family from Italy and the United States will join together as the Fauci family thanks all those who were so instrumental in the search for their son.

In his memory, the Michael Braccio Fauci Foundation for the Advancement of Search and Rescue Technology was formed to advance and improve the technology used to locate and rescue missing persons lost in the outdoors or trapped by the forces of nature. A type of tracking device worn on Michael's clothes would have guided the search party to him within hours and saved his life. Through this foundation, the Fauci family hopes to raise funds to develop a high-technology model, so that in the future it could be available to all people who appreciate and spend time in the great outdoors. It would also reduce the number of people lost to snowstorms each year.

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